



Agenda ***Sister Cities Commission***

January 26, 2017
Milpitas City Hall, Committee Conference Room
455 E. Calaveras Blvd.
6:00 PM

I. Roll Call

II. Seating of Alternates

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. Approval of Minutes: October 27, 2016

V. Approval of Agenda: January 26, 2017

VI. Announcements / Correspondence

Items directly related to the Sister Cities Commission (SCC) and City of Milpitas business.

VII. Public Forum

Members of the audience are invited to address the commission in any subject not on tonight's agenda. Speakers must supply their name and address for the record. Commissioners cannot respond to issues brought forward, but may request that the matter be added to the agenda of a future meeting.

VIII. New Business

1. Elections

Background: Existing SCC bylaws state that a Chair and Vice Chair are to be selected annually at the first meeting of the year for a term of one year. The Chair is responsible for calling meetings to order and presiding over all sessions. Additionally, the Chair receives Commissioners' notices of being unable to attend a meeting. The Vice Chair assumes the Chair's duties in his / her absence. Review SCC bylaws at: www.ci.milpitas.ca.gov/_pdfs/commissions/scc/scc_bylaws.pdf

Recommendation: Conduct elections for Chair and Vice Chair positions.

2. Chamber of Commerce International BBQ Event, May 20-21, 2017

Background: The Milpitas Chamber of Commerce will host its two-day International BBQ event on May 20 – 21. Charlene Tsai, Vice President of

International Development for the Chamber will present information about a cultural theme for this year's event.

Recommendation: Receive presentation from Ms. Tsai. Discuss possibility of participating in this event.

3. Lead Commissioners for Established Sister Cities

Background: In its FY16-17 work plan the SCC established a goal to have a lead commissioner named for each sister city relationship. Currently, Chair Grilli serves as lead commissioner for Huizhou Municipality, Commissioner Arefi for Tsukuba City, and no commissioner is named for the City of Dagupan.

Recommendation: Discuss purpose of lead commissioners. Staff requests that the Chair assign commissioner(s) as needed.

IX. Old Business

4. Develop Relationship with Milpitas High School (MHS) Leadership Team

Background: In order to continue sister city student visits with homestays, the SCC set a task in its FY16-17 work plan to establish a relationship with this new leadership. At the October meeting, Chair Grilli and Commissioner Arefi volunteered to liaise with MHS management staff and establish contacts for activities involving sister city activities.

Recommendation: Review update and determine contacts for 2017 home stay coordination.

5. Discuss Interest in Sister City Relationship with Bhopal, India

Background: Commissioner Awasthi leads research and discussion regarding this city's interest in becoming a Milpitas Sister City.

Recommendation: Receive update from Commissioner Awasthi. Staff needs a copy of the Request for Sister City Relationship form.

6. Possible Sister City Relationship with a Latin America City

Background: Recent research has centered in finding a sister city near Santa Cruz, Bolivia. Receive update from Chair Grilli.

Recommendation: Review and discuss.

7. Current Ideas in Motion to Promote the Sister City Program

Background: Staff worked with the Digital Business Academy (DBA) to conduct a two-hour school presentation on November 4 in the MHS Library. This successful event was led by Mr. Mineo Kageya from the Japan Institute. He provided a lesson

about the Karuta Japanese card game and how to make cards. DBA students completed picture and information or “clue” cards of 26 Milpitas locations that will be reprinted as decks of cards for distribution to promote the Tsukuba-Milpitas Sister City Relationship.

Staff thanks Commissioner Arefi and Recycling & Source Reduction Advisory Commissioner Echo Arthur for their involvement in hosting Mr. Kageya during his stay in Milpitas.

Recommendation: Receive updates, decide how to implement ideas and determine a schedule.

8. City Plaza Signs

Background: At its last meeting, the SCC identified a possible location for the sign; at the landscaped area adjacent to the walk up to entrance doors on the City Plaza side of city hall.

Recommendation: Consider a City Council meeting date to present a full proposal.

9. ePal Project with Sister Cities

Background: There are 13 students each from Tsukuba and Milpitas communicating. The remaining students were split between Huizhou and Dagupan. Communications between students began the week of November 7, 2016.

Tsukuba City requests conducting a “Skype event” to include our mayors and ePal students. This would occur in late February or March and include playing the Karuta card game.

Recommendation: Review updates and discuss other promotions ideas.

10. Tsukuba City, Japan

Background: Milpitas and Tsukuba signed an updated Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) effective October 7, 2014 for a five-year term, ending October 7, 2019. Commissioner Arefi is the lead commissioner.

Recommendation: Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

11. Dagupan City, Philippines

Background: Milpitas and Dagupan signed an updated MOU in October 7, 2014 for a five-year term, ending October 7, 2019. A lead commissioner is needed for this sister city relationship.

Recommendation: Determine a lead commissioner. Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

12. Huizhou Municipality, China

Background: Milpitas and Huizhou signed an updated MOU on October 15, 2013 for a five-year term, ending October 15, 2018. Chair Grilli is the lead commissioner for this relationship.

Huizhou representatives have requested to establish a sister school relationship between MHS and a school in Huizhou, China. This can be tied into the outreach to MHS management.

Recommendation: Receive updates and discuss possible student and/or adult visits and other exchanges as available.

VI. Student Liaison Report

VII. City Council Liaison Report

VIII. School District Liaison Report

IX. Future Agenda Items

Ongoing Sister City Relationships / Cultural Exchanges

1. Tsukuba, Japan
2. Dagupan, Philippines
3. Huizhou, China

Possible New Business: as noted by SCC

X. Adjournment

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